

GERMAN STATESMEN.

They Meet on Tuesday to Discuss the Army Bill.

"I will be among men who will look upon me as a Pariah."

This was a bitter utterance from the lips of the young emperor, when asked if he would take his seat in the German Reichstag.

EMPEROR WILLIAM.

Following November 23. But there are those who believe he will be present to speak against the government, and to show his mighty influence against the very principles which he himself advocated, initiated and carried into effective operation under the aged kaiser.

The Reichstag, which convenes in a few days at the call of the young emperor, has been in existence for about six years now, and during that time, by



Kaiser Wilhelm I.

elections only, have made a number of decided changes. But, on the whole, it has been exceedingly friendly to the emperor in policy and in military matters, framed under the eyes of the emperor and advocated by the Caprivi minority. The end is, however, near, for critics in Germany agree that the new mili-



OTTO VON BISMARCK.

tary measure, concerning which there has been until now the greatest secrecy, will not secure the approval of the Reichstag. This means dissolution, for the emperor will not brook defeat in his own scheme.

"Dissolve the Reichstag a dozen times, if necessary, but pass the measure."

The dictum of the emperor has been the Shibboleth of the ministry,



PRINCE BISMARCK.

and no stone will now be left unturned to perform the kaiser's will.

The Reichstag is because it is a part of the policy of the triple alliance, and no measure in which Italy has an interest will receive the indorsement of that wing of the Reichstag. But they have been windmills to lead from now, and



PRINCE BISMARCK.

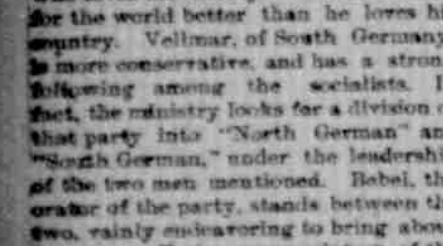
their opposition will, under any circumstances, be weak.

There is the prospect, too, that the socialist faction, which is exceedingly strong, will be divided, and will make a union on any measure impossible. Division there means strength for the ministry. Liebknecht will lead the extreme wing of the socialists. He is the North German representative, and



PRINCE BISMARCK.

if anything must be classed as an internationalist, he is a Marxist, a man who loves his theory of social reform for the world better than he loves his country. Villmar, of South Germany, is more conservative, and has a strong following among the socialists. In fact, the ministry looks for a division of that party into "North German" and "South German," under the leadership of the two men mentioned. Rebel, the orator of the party, stands between the two, vainly endeavoring to bring about harmony. He is a queer mixture of the demagogue and statesman. At times, when addressing the socialists of Berlin, he drops almost into anachronistic utterances. In the Reichstag, again, his oratory is occasionally as forceful and effective as was ever that of Bismarck. He is the Demosthenes of his party on the floor of the Reichstag. Bismarck is the moneyed man of the so-



PRINCE BISMARCK.

cialist party, and as he handles the funds of that organization, now on deposit with the Bank of England, is no weak factor in its councils. In all likelihood he will lean to the Villmar wing of the party. As yet, another socialist leader, is known as a "triumvir." He is himself to events and the popular demands, instead of taking the initiative in any movement. But the liberal element in the Reichstag is composed of a set of staid business and professional men, and on these, together with those who might be termed the "out-and-out" ministerialists, the hopes of the Kaiser rest.

The army bill debate will, however, hold the public attention for months to come, and its provisions are necessarily of momentous interest. To put the matter briefly, it may be said that the movement is but the beginning of an increased armament on the part of Austria and Italy, members of the triple alliance. The cause of it all is the increase of the French army nearly to the limit of that nation's capacity. In 1890 the enlistment in the French army reached 350,000 men, in 1891 it was 377,071, and in 1892, 311,000. France, there-



PRINCE BISMARCK.

fore, in turning her attention to increasing its population, for its enlistment will continue to decrease for five or ten years to come.

The new army bill fixes the effective forces of Germany from October 1, 1893, to March, 1899, as follows: Infantry, 711 battalions; cavalry, 47 squadrons; dismounted artillery, 484 batteries; field artillery, 37 battalions; railway troops, 7 battalions; train service, 21 battalions. This makes a total of 492,000 men, and means an increase in the effective strength of the German army to 2,138 officers, 224 sergeants, 300 armories, 22 volunteer units, 11,867 non-commissioned officers, 73,073 privates and 4,130 horses. The increase in expenses will be from \$16,000,000 to \$30,000,000. The measure itself in its preamble advert to the armament of Russia and France in terms which leave no doubt as to Germany's attitude toward these nations.

It asserts eloquently that Germany's military supremacy has disappeared; that Russia has to-day a war strength of 4,550,000 men, while France has 4,053,000. To equal this the nation must rise to the very last notch of its capacity, and every man capable of bearing arms must be in line. When all the provisions of the new bill have been carried out the available force of Germany will be 4,400,000. This means a yearly enlistment of 235,000 men. To this must be added the 9,000 one-year men, taken from the number being educated for the professions. Thus the number to be trained yearly will be 244,000.

But even with the passage of the military bill the emperor's troubles will not cease. The emigration laws will, perhaps, be made iron-clad, and America will soon note the effect in the decrease of Germany's annual contribution to American citizenship. Nor will it end with that. The addition of \$16,000,000 in expenses means \$16,000,000 more in taxes, and the nation will not alone be taxed to its utmost capacity for soldiers, but far beyond its capacity for funds. There is nothing hopeful for monarchy in the future, and the fearful scenes of 1848, when such men as Karl Schurz, Karl Heinzen, Franz Siegel and Oswald Ottendorfer were driven to American shores, may be repeated with an effectiveness not dreamed of in that early period.

AN IMMENSE DIOCESE.

Bishop of Falkland Islands South America Under His Charge.

The largest bishop's diocese in the world is that of the Falkland Islands, over which Rt. Rev. Walter Hocken Strirling has been appointed bishop. The Falkland Islands themselves cover an area of only 7,000 square miles; but the bishop has spiritual superintendence over all the clergy and congregations of the Church of England in South America, except British Guiana, which covers 120,000 square miles.

The Falkland Islands diocese extends over 7,291,097 square miles on the mainland, or, in all, over 7,298,097 square miles.

The Church of England bishopric of Mackenzie river, in North America, has an area of 500,000 square miles—nearly five times as great as the whole of Great Britain and Ireland; but the Church of England population, 1,000.

The missionary bishop of mid-China of the Church of England has a population of 100,000,000; his missionary bishop of North China, a population of 70,000,000, in an area of 498,433 square miles. The diocese of Saskatchewan and Calgary extends over 1,000 square miles, from Lake Winnipeg on the east to the Rocky mountains on the west.

AGE OF TABLE UTENSILS.

Spiders Were Made a Long Time Before Forks, But Spoons Are Ancient.

A French writer attempts to trace table utensils—most of them of recent introduction—to their origin. The Romans took their meals lying upon very low couches, and it was not until about the time of Charlemagne that a stand was used, around which guests were seated on cushions, while the table made its appearance in the middle ages, and with it came benches with backs. The Greeks and Romans ate from a kind of porringer, yet during a portion of the middle ages slices of bread cut round took the place of plate. The

spoon is very ancient, and many fine specimens are in existence that were used by the Egyptians in the seventh century. B. C. The knife—though very old—had not come into common use as a table utensil in the tenth century. The fork was absolutely unknown to the Greeks and Romans, appeared only as a curiosity in the middle ages, and was first used upon the table by Henry III. Drinking cups—in the middle ages made from metal, more or less precious—naturally date from the remotest antiquity. The use of glasses, from Venice, began to be general in the fifteenth century. The salt-cellar appeared at a very early date, and occupied the place of honor at the banquets of the Greeks and Romans, many of them being of gold and silver. The castor is probably not older than the sixteenth century.

ALL THE SAME, ALWAYS.

SPRAINS.

MR. PRASANT, TEXAS, June 20, 1888. Suffered 5 months with strain of back; could not walk straight; used two bottles of St. Jacobs Oil, was cured. No pain in 15 months.

M. J. WALLACE.



A PROMPT AND PERMANENT CURE.

article of diet being found in the journal of Sir Samuel Argyle, in that part devoted to his travels in the "Land of Virginia," in the year 1613. "In this journey," he says, "I likewise found a mine of a strange kind of earth, the virtues of which I know not, but the natives use it for physic, and allege that it cures pain in the stomach and a variety of sicknesses."

Even at the present time the poorer classes of whites in North and South Carolina are said to eat clay to such an extent as to give their complexions a peculiar greenish hue.

Humboldt, during his explorations of the Rio Negro, South America, discovered a tribe of Indians "whose principal food during the rainy season was a fat, unctuous clay called 'bole.'"

There are several Central American tribes that greedily devour the earth of ant hills, and the same may be said of the negroes of Sierra Leone.

In Germany, during the time of the last famine, an infusorial earth called "mountain meal" was largely used, either with or without a mixture of wheat flour.

INSTANTANEOUS PHOTOGRAPHS

Even the Quickest Flash Requires a Delineation Time for Exposure.

So-called instantaneous photographs are taken in a length of time varying according to the nature of the subject. For portraiture the magnesium flash is so sudden that the pupil of the eye has not time to contract, but the exposure of such illumination is so slow that a rotating clock face with a circumferential motion of forty miles an hour gave only an indistinct blur in the picture. By the ordinary electric spark, the moving clock face was photographed perfectly, as was also an express train passing the camera (which was traveling on a train in an opposite direction), at the rate of 100 miles an hour. But even the electric spark takes a certain and not invariable time, and this has been investigated by Prof. C. V. Boys by means of a revolving mirror. Three sparks were photographed. The first, seemingly instantaneous, lasted as long as 1-100,000 of a second, and was too slow to give a good photograph of a rifle bullet; whereas a spark made by other apparatus was practically extinct in 1-10,000,000 of a second, or, totally so in 1-1,000,000. The third spark was even more rapid. By sparks of the second type perfect photographs were secured of rifle bullets moving from 1,295 to 3,000 feet per second.

A QUEER BAROMETER.

It Is Made of Gingerbread, and Is a Clever French Product.

A clever Frenchman, who has original ideas on most subjects, employs a kind of barometer which may safely be called unique. It is nothing more nor less than the figure of a general made of gingerbread. He buys it every year in the Place du Throne, takes it home and hangs it by a string on a nail.

Gingerbread, as every one knows, is easily affected by changes in the atmosphere. The slightest moisture renders it soft; in dry weather, on the contrary, it grows hard and tough.

Every morning on going out the Frenchman asks his servant: "What does the general say?" and the man applies his thumb to the gingerbread figure.

Sometimes he replies: "The general feels soft; he would advise your taking an umbrella." On the other hand, when the general's symptoms are hard and unyielding the Frenchman sallies forth arrayed in his best, with no fears for his spotless suit or his new hat. He says the general has so far never proved unworthy of the confidence placed in his prognostication.

Take Their Roosters to Church.

"Going to church is a great picnic down my way," says a Nicaraguan banana planter. "I have on my plantation about fifty Jamaica negroes who are very pious and insist upon going to church regularly, no matter what may become of the crops. Still, I cannot blame them, for every worshiper takes along a rooster under his arm, nurses it through services at the Moravian mission, and after he has cleared his conscience goes outside, where hundreds of cock pits are improvised and where, Sunday after Sunday, rival cocks contend in the bloody arena. The custom is universal, and every man has a rooster, from the humblest laborer to the grandest alcalde, and the whole day after service is spent in this bloody sport."

Served Him Right.

M. Telard, a countryman, in Paris for a few days recently, stood in the Rue de Richelieu in a pouring rain, protected only by his umbrella, observes a writer in the Argonaut. He inquired of M. Bernheil the way to the Chateau d'Eau. That gentleman, who had no umbrella, thereupon volunteered to guide the countryman part way to his destination; but instead of taking him in the right direction he led him a mile in a directly opposite course, sharing his umbrella, and then told him to retrace his steps, and keep right on until he reached the Chateau d'Eau. Then M. Telard slapped the Parisian's face. He was arrested for assault, but was acquitted, and the wily Parisian had to pay the costs.

LEGEND OF LOCH MAREE.

A Double Tragedy Which Led to Its Selection as a Burial Ground.

The most interesting of the islands in Loch Maree is by no means the biggest, but it differs entirely from the others in its varied vegetation, says the London Queen.

There is a romantic legend in connection with this island. In olden times a Norwegian prince and princess lived there happily. In time of trouble the prince went forth to war, leaving his island to be guarded by his wife.

It was agreed that when he was in sight of home on his return a white flag should be hoisted if all was well; if not, a black one.

Time passed, and the princess became jealous of his long absence. When his boat at length appeared in the loch a black flag was hoisted, and when he landed he found his wife lying, as if dead, on a bier, she having feigned death to prove his love.

Heartbroken at the sight the prince unheeded his dagger and plunged it into his heart. A truth, and he lay dead at her feet.

Horried at the sight, she grasped the dagger from his breast and took her own life. They were buried in this romantic spot, foot to foot, with the hill of a dagger engraved on their tombstone.

Since then the landowners of the neighborhood have had the right to bury on the island, and some of the graves are of curious, unwhimsical shapes. This island burial is quite common in Scotland. It is a delightful idea that the dead should rest in peace surrounded by beautiful scenery and far enough from human habitation to do no harm to the living.

PEOPLE WHO EAT CLAY.

Widely Separated Places Where Earth Is an Article of Diet.

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article of diet being found in the journal of Sir Samuel Argyle, in that part devoted to his travels in the "Land of Virginia," in the year 1613.

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